

5 DEC 1949

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TOP SECRET

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GENERAL

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1. Comments on Soviet plans against Tito--In discussing the possibility of Soviet armed action to liquidate Tito, US Embassy Belgrade expresses the opinion that the Kremlin will not "move openly" with military forces against Tito until convinced that his liquidation is absolutely essential. The Embassy adds that if Tito's heretical influence can be weakened or if he can be "ideologically sealed off" the Kremlin may feel that the risk of resorting to arms would not be justified. The Embassy does not believe that Soviet attempts to establish Tito as a "Fascist spy" will be successful in eliminating the dangers to the Soviet system inherent in Titoism; the Embassy points out, however, that the Kremlin "might well feel otherwise."

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that although the Kremlin continues to be fully aware of the danger of Titoism, full scale military operations against Tito would not be undertaken unless the Kremlin is convinced that the US would not intervene militarily.)

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2. Developments in recognition of Chinese Communists--US Embassy Bangkok has been informed by the Thai Foreign Minister that the UK has advised the Thai Government of its intention to recognize the Chinese Communist Government about the "middle" of December; the Thai Foreign Minister added that he "understood" the Indian and Burmese governments would extend recognition at about the same time. Meanwhile, US Embassy Paris has been informed by a French

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NO CHANGES. ☐

☐ DECISION

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T O P S E C R E T

Foreign Office official that the British Cabinet will "pronounce itself" during the week beginning 12 December on the principle and timing of recognizing the Chinese Communists.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that the UK Government will delay recognition of the Chinese Communist Government until after adjournment of the current session of the UN General Assembly. CIA further believes that although the UK may delay until after the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference in Ceylon beginning 9 January 1950 it would move more quickly if other governments, especially those associated with the Commonwealth, should extend recognition within the next few weeks.)

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